



CONSERVATION CONNECTIONS



Newsletter of the St. Louis Region Shooting Range & Outdoor Education Centers

The August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center

&

The Jay Henges Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center

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Outdoor Opportunities and the Land Owner

Remembering back when I was growing up in Phelps county, finding land to hunt or fish on was not a problem. I could walk out our house door and into almost any field or wooded area around and start hunting, hiking, camping or fishing. Most all farmers and land owners in our area welcomed me to hunt, fish, etc. on their land. However these days, even I have little or no private land to hunt and fish on after retiring from the Air Force and moving to New Haven in Franklin county or even back home in Phelps county. This is mainly due to land changing hands, owners wanting to keep all game or hunting on their land to themselves, or owners worried about law suits if some accident were to happen. However, while I was away in the Air Force, some in Missouri's forward thinking legislature helped with one of these problems by passing the Missouri Recreational Use Act (MRUA) in 1983. I asked friend David Bub, Pheasants Forever member, active hunter, conservationist, land owner and private attorney to give some basic info on this act to pass along.

— Tony Legg, Busch Outdoor Education Center Supervisor

Missouri Recreational Use Act

By David Bub, Principle -Brown & James, PC

Few people in this country would disagree that there are way too many lawsuits and way too many "sue-happy" people out there. As a result, many landowners deny access to their land to people who want to go hunting, fishing or engage in other outdoor activities for fears of being sued. Given the amount of lawsuits that are out there, who can blame them??? Fortunately, our Missouri Legislature passed a law back in 1983 designed to protect landowners from lawsuits

arising out the recreational use of their land. This law is commonly known as Missouri's Recreational Use Act (§537.346-48 RSMo. 1983) ("MRUA" or "Act").

The MRUA specifically states that a landowner cannot be held liable for damages to any person who uses his or her land for "recreational use" as long as there is no fee charged by the landowner. The MRUA explicitly defines what constitutes "recreational use" and it includes most activities we normally think of as recreational such as hunting, fishing, hiking, camping, etc. The MRUA also defines what is meant by a fee or "charge" as a price or fee to use the land **or** where permission is given for purposes of sales promotion or other business purposes.



The MRUA will protect from liability most landowners who allow access to their land for recreational purposes arising out of unfortunately accidents and/or incidents that

happen to those people using the land. However, landowners must be aware that there are several exceptions to the MRUA that will take away the protections afforded by this law. First, the MRUA does not protect the landowner from acts of "gross negligence" or "ultrahazardous conditions" on the property. Although not specifically defined by the Act, these types of activities go far beyond simple neglect of one's land (i.e., forgot to tell the hunter about the land mines planted everywhere on the farm).

Second, the MRUA does not protect landowners whose land is within any city, town or municipal boundaries. Third, the Act does not apply to incidents that occur in a swimming pool. Fourth, the MRUA does not protect landowners in a "residential area" which is defined as a tract of land less than an acre in size used primarily for residential purposes. Finally, the MRUA does not apply to land used primarily for "commercial purposes". The Act specifically states that agricultural, grazing and forestry do not constitute "commercial purposes".

As such, landowners should have a little more piece of mind due to the MRUA the next time someone knocks on their door asking for permission to hunt or fish. However, as discussed above, there are a number of exceptions that landowners should know about before being completely assured that the hunter or fisherman won't be able to sue him or her as a result of an injury on their land.

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The Mighty Morel (*Morchella*)

By Charles Trokey, Resource Assistant

For years mushroom lovers have worked in a microscopic fungi world creating spawn that is suitable for cultivation of many mushrooms from farms, caves, to the back yard. Today you can go to your local grocery and buy shiitake, portobello, and oyster mushrooms. They are commercially grown on logs, in compost, sawdust, and even in caves so the temperatures do not vary. All can be commercial produced for fine cooking.



The mighty morel refuses to allow itself to be produced in such a way that commercial growers can supply the huge demand. The only way to harvest this delicious fungus is to take to the forest, parks, and public lands in search of the allusive treat. Be sure you check area regulations before harvesting any vegetation, fruit, nut, or fungi. If you are not sure what you are picking is edible, **DON'T EAT IT!!** It's a great idea to find a friend that is familiar with morels and will take you on a foray. Many mushrooms and tree fungi are edible, but many are not.

A morel is the only mushroom, I know, that is very easy to identify. The structure of the fungi is from 2 inches to 5 inches tall and is shaped like a small pine or cedar tree. The texture of the mushroom resembles a sponge and it is very hard to confuse a morel with other mushrooms. A false morel is textured similarly, but has a round shape and is much larger.

In order to search for this prize you must take to the woods starting in mid March thru May and search around decayed down falls or in heavy leaf litter. Many people look by decaying ash, elm, or oak logs. Anytime you see mushrooms, growing in your yard, this is a good indicator that morels may have begun growing. Look for the May apples when they just poke through the leaf litter. I have found that they seem to appear about the same time as morels. When you find one don't give up the area, there are usually many more close by.

Morels come in many colors. Red, black, and white morels are very common. Grasp the stem of the morel and twist it. Once the mushroom has appeared, it has spread its spores- although some people carry them in mesh bags hoping to spread some remaining spores of the harvested fungi.

Remember mushrooms can be poisonous. Try eating a small amount of morels to start and if you have no distress you should be fine. I encourage you to sign up for one of the many organizations that have classes and take field trips searching for these and other edible mushroom. Consider the **Missouri Mycological Society** and sign up for classes with local agencies and at **State and County Educational Facilities**. Have fun and good hunting!

Charles Trokey, Resource Assistant, Jay Henges Range & Outdoor Education Center Note: Henges will have a "Hunting & Growing Mushroom" program April 20, 2005.

To think straight on recreational quality, an historical perspective is essential -- *Aldo Leopold*

MDC Shooting Range Program - William R. Logan CA

By Tony Legg, Busch Outdoor Education Center Supervisor

Purchased in part with Pittman-Robertson funds from the federal excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition, this 1,797-acre area includes 1,180 acres of timber, 617 acres of open fields, 29 acres of lakes, 13 ponds, a creek and the busiest unmanned range in the St. Louis region. The Logan Conservation Area is an area that demonstrates Mississippi River hills and upland prairie with a multitude of wildlife, trees, shrubs and other natural habitat.

The shooting range has varying target lines and a shotgun range. It also

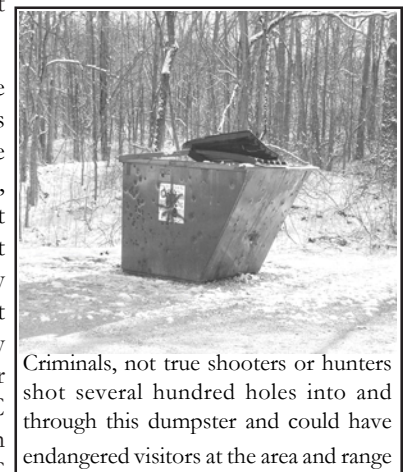


features fixed concrete shooting benches with pivoting seats for bench shooting. The target lines are made of used conveyor belt and shooters are encouraged to bring their own paper targets that will stick to the belt or a staple gun to attach them with.

This area is set in a wonderful setting with plenty of family outdoor activities on the area for all, from hiking, to enjoying fishing, hunting, camping, outdoor photography, picnicking frogging, and other nature study and wildlife viewing. So the next time you want to visit a great forest area and maybe do a little family plinking, try the William R. Logan Conservation Area in Lincoln County.

Remember to take care during your visit to be safe, courteous, remove trash, including brass and targets. A number of undesirable visitors have made their presence known with significant damage to the facility already. We need your help to keep this a place of for everyone to enjoy and visit. Please watch for vandalism and damage, shooting of property, signs, bulletin boards, littering, illegal use of automatic firearms or illegal possession of alcohol at the range and parking areas.

If you see someone improperly using the facilities or damaging it do not take matters in your own hands, contact the area manager at (573) 898-5905, our hotline at (800) 227-1488, or any Conservation Office or Agent with information and you may be eligible for a cash reward. For more information on MDC ranges in the St. Louis Region and the state visit the MDC range web page at www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/



Criminals, not true shooters or hunters shot several hundred holes into and through this dumpster and could have endangered visitors at the area and range

Likewise, we must reject the argument that all forms of shooting animals--wild, semi-wild, and domestic--must be defended for the sake of hunter unity. Tolerance of the lowest ethical standards of the sake of unity simply demeans us all. -- *Jim Posewitz, Rifle In Hand*

August A. Busch Memorial Outdoor Education Center

To Register for Programs/Classes Call (636) 441-4554

ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE TO THE PUBLIC UNLESS NOTED

APRIL PROGRAMS

Turkey Hunting & Shotgun Patterning Seminar

Fri, 1st 6pm - Range patterning Sat, 2nd 8am

Seminar topics will include: safety, hunting regulations, proper shotgun patterning hunting techniques, calling, and field game care. Saturday morning patterning on the range will take place.



Youth Turkey Hunting Clinic

Sun, 3rd - Sun, 10th

Clinic is 9am to 2pm and Hunts will follow youth season times
Open to youth 11 to 15 who are Hunter Education certified by April 8th. Youth tag required to participate in hunt.



Missouri Hunter Education Certification Course

Tue 5th - Thu, 7th 5:30pm to 9:30pm each night

Hunter Education Certification Course, start time 5:30pm each night, open to ages 11 and up, youth ages 11 thru 13 must have adult attend with them, ages 15 and younger must bring birth certificate, ages 16 and older must have a ID. Must attend all three nights and pass test.

First Aid for the Outdoors Person

Wed, 6th or Thu, 7th 6pm to 8pm

This course will cover basic first aid for yourself and others in the outdoors. Presented by Nurses and Red Cross Professionals, this one is not to be missed. Great program of scouts!



NRA Basic Pistol Certification Course

Sat, 9th - Thu, 14th 9am to 4pm Sat the 9th, 6:30pm to 8:30pm Wed the 13th and Thu the 14th

The 10-hour course is conducted in three classes. A Saturday classroom session on the 9th; a shooting session on the 13th and a shooting session of the 14th followed by 2 hours of classroom. Attendees must be 21 years of age or older, \$7 fee required.



How to Build a Purple Martin House

Thu, 14th 6pm to 9pm

Participants will assemble/construct a Purple Martin House that has been pre-cut and take home with them along with the plans for building their own. Minimum of 8 years old and up, youth under 13 must attend with an adult.



Basic .22 cal Rifle Shooting

Fri, 15th - Sat, 16th 6pm to 9pm Fri night, 8am to 10pm Sat morning shooting

Busch staff will take you through all the basics for you and your family to handle rifles and enjoy the sport. All firearms and ammunition will be provided. Youth under 16 must attend with adult.



Paraffin Candle Making Course

Sat, 16th 9am to 11am

Making paraffin candles has long been a traditional and historical craft dating back to the earliest settlers and beyond. Come and spend time with our professional Kerri Mills of Candles, Gifts & More, as she takes you through the steps and creates your own work of art.



Introduction to Archery Basics

Sat, 16th 9am to 2pm

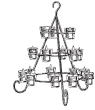
This course will cover the ABC's of the sport and conclude on the archery range with opportunities to shoot our equipment or your own. Open to everyone, however youth under 16 must attend with an adult. If bringing your own equipment, target/field tips only.



Gel Candle Making

Sat, 16th 11:30am to 1:30pm

Making candles has long been a traditional and historical craft dating back to the earliest settlers and beyond. Come and spend time with our professional, Kerri Mills of Candles, Gifts & More, as she takes you through the steps and you creates your own work of art.



Outdoor Photography with the Experts

Wed, 20th 6pm to 9pm

This program will be offered with Creve Coeur Camera Experts. Always wanting to know more about taking photos in nature, extreme close-ups, distance shots, etc. Or maybe you need more information on cameras themselves, filters, lighting, F-stop, digital, film speeds, etc. Come on out and get your questions answered.



Knife Sharpening Basics

Wed, 20th 6pm to 8pm

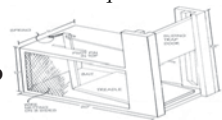
Looking for help and techniques to get those pocket, kitchen, hunting and fishing knives sharpened? This seminar will cover the differences in knives, edges, angles, and some of the techniques to sharpen them correctly. Great class for scouts.



How to Build a Squirrel Live Trap

Thu, 21st 6pm to 9pm

Enjoy the outdoors and always wanted to make an old fashion wooden squirrel trap box? This simple project is ideal for parents and children, scouts, and anyone who enjoys projects. All materials will be provided and individuals will be able to take home their traps.



Women's Beginning Skeet Program

Fri, 22nd - Sat, 23rd 6pm to 8:30pm

classroom Fri night then 8am to 10am shooting Sat morning

This course does not include basic shotgun shooting or instruction. This program is for women only, with experience shooting and handling shotguns. Course will cover and instruct shooters on the game of skeet shooting. Attendees needing eye and ear protection along with firearms and ammunition will be provided by MDC.



Firearm Selection for Beginning Hunters and Shooters

Wed, 27th 6pm to 8pm

Thinking of making that first firearm purchase for shooting or hunting and just not sure of what you need? We will discuss basic firearms, requirements, sport to firearm match-up, age and size recommendations, and much more.

Missouri Bowhunter Education Certification Course

Fri, April 29 - Sat, April 30 6pm Fri night 9am Sat

Open to ages 11 and up, youth ages 11 thru 13 must have adult attend with them, ages 15 and younger must bring birth certificate, ages 16 and older must have a valid ID. Must attend both sessions & pass test.



NRA Basic Pistol Certification Course

Sat, April 30 - Thu, May 5 9am to 4pm Sat the 30th, 6:30pm to 8:30pm Wed the 4th and Thu the 5th

The 10-hour course is conducted in three classes. A Saturday classroom session on April 30th; a shooting session on the May 4th and a shooting session of May 5th followed by 1 hour of classroom. Attendees must be 21 years of age or older, \$7 fee required.



August A. Busch Memorial Outdoor Education Center

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ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE TO THE PUBLIC UNLESS NOTED

MAY PROGRAMS

CPR for Friends and Family

Wed, 4th 6pm to 9pm or

Thu, 5th 6pm to 9pm

You are outdoors and a friend or family member needs CPR? Do you know how to do CPR, does your other family members? Nurses and Red Cross Professionals will be conducting this basic program to better prepare you and your family members on what to do should the need arise. Sign up and join us, great program for scouts.



Women's Handgun Basics

Thu, 5th - Sat, 7th 6pm to 9pm on 5th

at classroom and 8am to 10am on 7th at range

Busch staff will take you through all the basics for you and your family to handle handguns and enjoy the sport. All firearms and ammunition will be provided. Youth under 16 must attend with adult.

This course DOES NOT MEET the requirements for the Missouri Concealed Carry Law.



Families Shoot FREE for Mother's Day

Sun, 8th 10am to 4pm

Families shoot for free when Mom comes to the range with them to shoot on Mother's Day. Families may shoot up to two hours on the 100 yard range, 2 rounds of trap or skeet per immediate family member, 2 hours on the shotgun patterning range, and 2 hours on the broadhead archery range for free. Time limits and other rules apply as normal. (All single parent families shoot free too).



Missouri Hunter Education Certification Course

Tue, 10th - Thu, 12th 5:30pm to 9:30pm each night

Hunter Education Certification Course, start time 5:30pm each night, open to ages 11 and up, youth ages 11 thru 13 must have adult attend with them, ages 15 and younger must bring birth certificate, ages 16 and older must have a ID. Must attend all three nights and pass test.



World Class Exhibition Shooter

Tom Knapp - The Shooting Star

Sat, 14th 10am to 4pm

St. Louis Big Game Hunters in cooperation with the Missouri Department of Conservation will sponsor World Class Exhibition Shooter Tom Knapp - The Shooting Star at the Busch Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center for two shooting exhibitions. Other events, groups and activities will be taking place for youth and families throughout the day. The public is invited to this FREE all day event. Exact times of Mr. Knapp's exhibition shooting in its rarest form will be posted later along with more information. For more info on Tom Knapp go to <http://www.tomknapp.net/content/home.html>



Introduction to Archery Basics

Sat, 14th 9am to 2pm

This course will cover the ABC's of the sport and conclude on the archery range with opportunities to shoot our equipment or your own. Open to everyone, however youth under 16 must attend with an adult. If bringing your own equipment, target/field tips only.



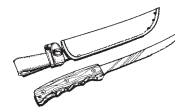
Introduction to Bank Fishing

Sun, 15th 8am to 12pm

Want to get started fishing and not sure what to do? Let us cover the basics in how to fish from the bank of lakes and ponds. We will cover



the basics of this type of fishing then move to one of our Busch lakes to try your hand. Attendees may bring their own equipment or MDC will supply some for those without. Attendees must meet any Missouri license requirements.



Knife Sharpening Basics

Tue, 17th 6pm to 8pm

Looking for help and techniques to get those pocket, kitchen, hunting and fishing knives sharpened? This seminar will cover the differences in knives, edges, angles, and some of the techniques to sharpen them correctly. Great class for scouts.



How to Build a Bluebird House

Thu, 19th 6pm to 9pm

Participants will assemble/construct a Bluebird house that has been pre-cut and take home with them along with the plans for building their own.



NRA Basic Shotgun Certification Course

Fri, 20th - Sat, 21st 6pm to 9pm Fri Night and 8am to 3pm Sat

The 10-hour course is conducted in two classes. A Friday evening classroom session and a Saturday morning shooting session at the range and 2 hour final session at the classroom. Attendees must be 13 years of age or older. Youth 15 and younger must attend with an adult, \$7 fee required.



Introduction to Backpacking

Wed, May 25 6pm to 9pm

Come and learn the basics of backpacking. Skills and items to be covered in the program are: What to wear, What gear to carry, Types of food to bring, and the Practice of no trace camping. Under 16 need to be accompanied by an adult.



NRA Basic Rifle Certification Course

Thu, 26th - Sat, 28th 6pm to 9pm Thu and Fri, 10am to 5pm Sat

The 14-hour course is conducted in three classes. A Thursday & Friday evening classroom session and a Saturday shooting session at the range and 2 hour final session at the classroom. Attendees must be 13 years of age or older. Youth 15 and younger must attend with an adult, \$7 fee required.

Youth Squirrel Hunting Clinic and Hunt

Fri, 27th - Sat, 28th

6pm first day, see description for more info

Youth 11 to 15 must be Hunter Education Certified and attend clinic on Friday evening to discuss safety, squirrel habitat, biology, techniques, cleaning and meat care, plus other needed information. Youth will be allowed to hunt the next morning in a special youth only hunt of the Busch range area.



Busch Range Summer Hours Begin

Friday thru Monday - 10am to 4pm

Tuesdays - 2pm to 8pm

Workers, Families want to get away, come on out to the range on Tuesday evenings and have fun.

Jay Henges Outdoor Education Center

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APRIL PROGRAMS



NRA Range Safety Officer Course

Mon, April 4th 6pm to 10pm & Tue, May 7th 7:45am to 5pm

In order to register for the NRA Range Safety Officer's Course, a candidate must possess a solid background in firearms safety and knowledge through previous firearms training. This is a 2 day course with 40 hours of home study. Course will include range liability, range design, development and management. Range safety procedures will be the main focus of this course. Participants must complete a written test to become certified.



"Let's Clean Your Rifle"

Wed, 6th 7pm - 9pm

In this course we will inform you how to properly clean and maintain your rifle. You may bring your own rifle, or one will be provided. This is a hands on course, dress appropriately for the activity.

Boy Scouts of America Rifle Merit Badge Program

Wed, 13th 6pm to 9pm and Sat, 16th 8am to 12pm

This BSA program will be taught by NRA & Missouri Hunter Education Instructors. This is a 2 day program. Program includes a 3 hour lecture on firearms safety, Firearms nomenclature, ammunition, and shooting fundamentals. Day 2 will include live fire proficiency testing. This is a popular BSA program and classes fill quickly. Register Early!!! This program is designed to be an organized troop activity. Scout leaders must provide a 1 in 5 student ratio.



"Worms, You Want Them, FISH Love Them, Worm Farming Basics"

Fri, 14th 7pm to 9pm

Learn how to grow your own fishing worms. We will discuss how to start and maintain your own worm bed. The course will cover commercial worm bed products, foods, and how to maintain the proper moisture for best production results.



"Turkey Patterning Day"

Sat, 16th 10am to 4pm

Henges staff and range volunteers will be on hand to assist turkey hunters with patterning their shotguns. Shotgun manufacture's ballistic data will be available. MDC Turkey Hunting Safety brochure will be given to all participants. This is an all day, on going, walk on program. Turkey patterning targets will be available at no charge. Come join us, as we prepare for Missouri's 2005 Spring Turkey Hunting Season. BE SAFE!



Range Rule to Remember....

By Tony Legg, Outdoor Education Center Supervisor

"On Trap and Skeet Ranges Shotguns Shells are limited to 12 gauge or smaller, with shot size 9, 8, 7 1/2 lead or 7 steel only."

This rule is necessary to protect the public and staff in the areas around our ranges. The trap and skeet ranges are constructed with safety/shot fall zones based on these allowed shells and shot. If a shooter was to violate this rule and use larger shells or shot, they could be endangering individuals that might be just outside the safety zone and using the area for hiking, biking, picnicking, working, etc.

"Mushroom Hunting & Growing"

Wed, 20th 7pm to 9pm & Sat, 23rd 8am to 10am

In this course you will learn how to cultivate your own fungi! We will also take the class out on a morel mushroom hunt on the Forest 44 Conservation Area. This is a 2 day program. Let's go MOREL HUNTING! Youths 15 and under must be with an adult. Dress for all weather, outside activity. Do not forget your insect repellent!



"Handgun Maintenance"

Fri, 22nd 6pm to 8pm

Course topics include: supplies, cleaning solvents, and proper techniques to safely clean and lubricate both semi-auto and revolvers handguns.



Outdoor Cooking "Catfish Fry"

Sat, 23rd 10am to 12pm

This course will consist of a lecture explaining the ways of cooking outdoors. Topics will include: fish preparation, frying them over an open flame or deep fried. Deep frying demo will be conducted and all participants will get the opportunity to sample the cook's fried catfish. Bring the family!

Boy Scouts of America Shotgun Merit Badge Program

Wed, 27th 6pm to 8pm & Sat, 30th 8am to 12pm

This BSA program will be taught by NRA & Missouri Hunter Education Instructors. This is a 2 day program. Program includes a 3 hour lecture on firearms safety, firearms nomenclature, ammunition, and shooting fundamentals. Day 2 will include live fire proficiency testing. This is a popular BSA program and classes fill quickly. Register Early!!! This program is designed to be an organized troop activity. Scout leaders must provide a 1 in 5 student ratio.



"Rifle Shooting Basics"

Fri, 29th 6pm to 8pm & Sat, 30th 9am to 11am

Learn the fundamentals of how to safely handle, load & unload, hold, aim & fire a rifle. Also covered will be the different types of actions and how each one operates. This is a 2 day program, Friday night lecture and live fire on the range on Saturday.



Normal April hours for Henges Shooting Range operations are:

Open Wednesdays thru Sundays — 10am to 4pm

Closed Mondays & Tuesdays (Office Open Only)
State/Federal Holidays, & Special Events

Range Location:

1100 Antire Rd.
High Ridge, MO 63049

Shotgun shooters on these ranges have a responsibility to ensure they are following the posted regulations for each range and location. These violations are unacceptable to all shooting enthusiasts. This rule, as all of our rules, is for everyone's safety and enjoyment. They are not intended to be a burden on users. **THANK YOU for helping to keep the ranges safe and fun for all.**

Jay Henges Outdoor Education Center

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MAY PROGRAMS

"American Trap Series"

Wed. 4th, 11th, 18th, & 25th 6pm to 8pm
4 consecutive Wednesday evenings



Learn the basics of shooting American Trap. Course will include the American Trap Associations rules & regulations, firearms safety, and shooting fundamentals. The 1st class will be a lecture format. The remaining 3 week sessions will be live fire on the trap range. Students will be video taped while shooting. These videos will be than reviewed with the student and their coach. American Trap is one of the most popular recreational shooting sports in the United States. Come join us and break some targets!

"How to use a Chronograph"

Fri, 6th 6pm to 8pm



Through the use of a Chronograph you will know exactly the velocity of your ammunition in order to know the trajectory of the bullets you fire. Knowing velocity and trajectory enables you to shoot accurately at different distances. There will be a live fire demonstration on the range.

"Mother's Day Shoot"

Sun, 8th 10am to 4pm



Bring Mom to the range on "Mothers Day" and the family will shoot FREE! Limited to 2 hours at the pistol/rifle range, 2 rounds of trap, 1 hour archery or shotgun patterning range. Bring the whole family!!!

Missouri Bow Hunter Education Certification Course

Fri, 13th 6pm to 9pm & Sat, 14th 9am to 4pm



Open to ages 11 and up, youth ages 11 thru 13 must have adult attend with them, ages 15 and younger must bring birth certificate, ages 16 and older must have a valid ID. Must attend both sessions & pass test.

Family Fishing Program

Fri, 20th 6:30pm to 8pm & Sat, 21st 9am to 11am



This will be a 2 day course. The first day will be a lecture presentation on the basics of bank fishing which will include equipment, casting techniques, lures, live bait, and fishing strategies. The second day will include a trip to the Missouri Conservation Department's Hatchery Lake at Forest Park. We will put the lecture techniques into practice.

"Women's Handgun Course" Level 1

Fri, 27th 6pm to 8pm & Sat, 28th 9am to 11am



You will learn how to safely handle firearms, learn the basic parts of a handgun, how they work, shooting fundamentals, and will include live firing on the range. This is a 2 day program. This program **does not** meet any state requirements for the concealed carry training. This is one of our most popular women's firearms training programs, register early! Must be at least 21 years of age.

Education, I fear, is learning to see one thing by going blind to another. - Aldo Leopold essay *Claude Lorraine*

Henges Range Summer Hours Begin

May 1st

Wednesdays - 2pm to 8pm

Thursdays thru Sundays 10am to 4pm

Workers, Families want to get away, come on out to the range on Wednesday evenings and have fun.

April and May Reminiscences.....

By Tony Legg, Busch Outdoor Education Center Supervisor

Daffodils green shafts pushing upward toward the sky in their blossoming yellows and whites, dogwoods blooming through the Ozark forests, trees budding out from their long winter slumber, crisp clean smells, birds returning in full song, yes nature is returning and shouting at us to look at her magnificence. These months hold the strongest memories and remain the favorite for enjoying the outdoors. All my senses are fully engaged in the beauty surrounding me and my mind can easily drift off in clear scenes of years gone by.

Camping is one of my most enjoyable things to do these months, while weather can be quick to change, the rewards are fulfilling for the soul. To wake in the morning while the sky still remains dark, the smell of a campfire of hickory, oak, and other native wood is warming to not only the body but, the mind too. An old metal coffee pot percolating on the fire, an owl hooting, and a whip-poor-will, a creek or brook with water moving along it, all this brings you to feel how large the outdoors around you must be.



Busch Trout Fishing Clinic attendees enjoy a beautiful February Saturday out trying their luck at catching their first rainbows.

Then as the sky goes from black to grayish- blue hue, you fill a little chill of the night trying to fight the morning sun rise, and sip your coffee to warm yourself. The area around you comes alive as turkeys start to gobble on the roost, squirrels take to scurrying the forest floor, thrushes start flying to the bushes, and other birds are on the move. Before the sun rises over the horizon, the sky turns a beautiful blue, a bobwhite gives a mating call, a farmer's rooster gives his announcement that it is time for the rest to rise and join into the chorus.

As a light morning breeze takes flight you notice the smells of the moist forest floor, blooming flowers, trees, creeks, lakes and aromas from breakfast from an open camp fire can be found no where else but here, in the outdoors. Don't you here her calling, don't you long for an experience to calm the soul, to take away the stress of the daily grind, to share experiences with your children, family or friends? You don't need to travel far and spend large sums of money, right here in your own state are the places to find this little Mecca. And don't try to modernize the experience, to enjoy the experience keep it simple, the rewards last a lifetime.



St. Louis Region Hunter Education Certification Courses

ALL COURSES ARE FREE OF CHARGE TO THE PUBLIC UNLESS NOTED
(additional courses listed on range program pages)

The Missouri Hunter Education Certification Course is a mandatory requirement for anyone born on or after January 1, 1967 to purchase a firearm hunting permit or deer and turkey transportation tags. Many of our free youth managed hunts and clinics require both youth and adult to be certified.

Open to ages 11 and up, youth ages 11 thru 13 must have an adult attend with them, ages 15 and younger must bring birth certificate, ages 16 and older must have a valid ID. Students must attend all sessions and pass an exam to become certified.

Topics included: hunter ethics and responsibility, firearms and ammunition, firearms safety, hunter preparation, first aid and survival, hunter skills, primitive hunting equipment, and wildlife conservation, management and identification.

Seating is limited, so reserve your place early and check on any special requirements, bringing of lunches, or fees needed for that location. All regional classes scheduled can be seen on the regional web site at: www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/stlouis

Lincoln

Location: University of Missouri Extension

Date: April 8th & 9th

Time: Fri 6pm to 9:30pm

Sat, 9am to 5:30pm

Registration#: (636) 665-5374

Jefferson

Location: Festus Conservation Club

Date: April 4th, 6th & 9th

Time: Mon & Wed 6:30pm to 9:30pm

Sat, 8am to 4pm

Registration#: (636) 933-0908

Remarks: \$3 fee by facility

Location: Jefferson College

Date: April 12th, 14th, & 16th

Time: Mon & Wed 6:30pm to 9:30pm

Sat, 8am to 3pm

Registration#: (636) 797-3000 ext 144

Remarks: \$3 fee by facility

St. Charles County

Location: St. Peters Senior Center

Date: April 2nd & 3rd

Time: 9am to 4pm each day

Registration#: (636) 477-6600 ext 400

Remarks: \$5 fee by facility

Location: Wentzville Parks, Green Lantern

Date: April 9th & 10th

Time: 9am to 4pm each day

Registration#: (636) 327-7665 or 332-4236

Remarks: \$5 fee by facility

Location: August A. Busch Memorial CA

Date: May 14th & 15th

Time: 9am to 4pm each day

Registration#: (636) 441-4554

St. Louis County

Location: Columbia Bottom CA

Date: April 2nd & 3rd

Time: 9am to 4pm each day

Registration#: (314) 877-6014

Location: Hermann Park Comm. College

Date: April 9th & 10th

Time: 9am to 4:30pm each day

Registration#: (314) 863-3208

Remarks: Fee will be required by the facility

Location: Florissant Valley Comm. College

Date: April 9th & 10th

Time: 9am to 4pm each day

Registration#: (314) 595-4444

Remarks: \$5 fee by facility

Location: Powder Valley CNC

Date: April 9th & 10th

Time: 9am to 4pm each day

Registration#: (314) 301-1500

Location: Forest Park Community College

Date: April 16th & 17th

Time: 9am to 4pm each day

Registration#: (314) 644-9175

Remarks: \$5 fee by facility

Location: Meramec Community College

Date: April 23rd & 24th

Time: 9am to 4pm each day

Registration#: (314) 984-7777

Remarks: \$5 fee by facility

Location: Meramec Community College

Date: May 14th & 15th

Time: 9am to 4pm each day

Registration#: (314) 984-7777

Remarks: \$5 fee by facility

Warren County

Location: Wright City Lions Club

Date: April 9th & 10th

Time: 9am to 4pm each day

Registration#: (636) 441-4554

I have the impression that the American sportsman is puzzled; he doesn't understand what is happening to him. Bigger and better gadgets are good for industry, so why not for outdoor recreation? It has not dawned on him that outdoor recreations are essentially primitive, atavistic; that their value is contrast-value; that excessive mechanization destroys contrasts by moving the factory to the woods or to the marsh. -- *Aldo Leopold, A Sand County Almanac*



Conservation Connections

Missouri Department of Conservation
2360 Hwy D
St. Charles, MO 63304-2215
www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/stlouis

PRSRT STD.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
JEFFERSON CITY MO
PERMIT 274

Look On The Web And Register For Our Up Coming Outdoor Programs Here Are Just A Few!

www.mdc.gov/areas/stlouis

www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/busch or www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges/henges

June

At Busch

13th thru 17th Youth Hunter Education Day Camp
19th Father's Day Family Free Shoot
27th thru July 1st Girls Only Outdoor Skills Day Camp

At Henges

6th, 20th, & 27th Youth Girls Outdoor Skills Series
13th thru 17th Youth Hunter Education Day Camp
24th & 25th Introduction to Family camping

July

At Henges

8th Night Bank Fishing
11th thru 15th Youth Hunter Education Challenge Day Camp
22nd & 23rd Shooting Fundamentals for Disabled Shooters

At Busch

9th Beginning Trap Course
11th thru 15th Youth Outdoor Skills Day Camp
30th MDC Outdoor Adventures Expo

Outdoor Education Center Volunteers Wanted

Do you like working with people of all ages? We are continually looking for individuals who enjoy sharing their time, love for the outdoors and dedication to conservation. If you are interested contact us at:

Busch (636) 300-1953 ext 251

Henges (636) 938-9548

**NO MORE
Trash!**